



Dr. Charles D. Horning Collection of
CAPPED BUST DIME ERRORS

INTRODUCTION

Collectors of bust coinage usually begin with a basic type set that may progress to a date set of an individual series. As collectors become more involved, they may advance to a die marriage set of a favorite coin. At some point, they will begin to hit a wall in finding new marriages for their sets. That interest may then expand to the esoterica of numismatics, including terminal die states, love tokens, merchant counter stamps and the caviar of collectibles-errors. Dr. Horning explored each of these areas in his favorite series, the Capped Bust Dime. His enthusiasm for the errors stemmed from numerous conversations with fellow collectors at the annual ANA conventions. Here he met and became friends with two of the error giants of bust coinage, Dr. Henry Hilgard and Russell Logan. His conversations with these two JRCS Hall of Fame members helped convince him that much was to be learned from studying the errors. While Henry and Russ collected errors of all denominations, Charlie restricted his purchases to the dimes.

The collection presented here is the culmination of years searching dealers' stocks at conventions and networking with other collectors by both Charlie and me. The errors are ALL rare and the opportunity to purchase them is even more rare. They were unwanted from their origin and culled from the system when discovered. Many of these were re-minted, obscuring their error status, especially when factoring in the wear they would have received in circulation. The pieces that could not be successfully recycled were melted. If one believes the approximate 3% survival rate for average bust coinage, one can only imagine the miniscule surviving numbers for the errors.

The Charles D. Horning collection of Capped Bust Dime Errors is offered here as a collection. The purchase of an entire grouping like this will likely save the collector decades of work attempting to duplicate something close to this collection. Consider that the Hilgard collection did not come to public auction and the last sale that had this many dime errors was the Logan collection in 2001!

The Logan collection contained 10 Capped Bust Dime errors in the sale. Charlie was able to accumulate 13 pieces in his collecting career including 3 directly from the Logan sale. The others were sourced from numerous shows and private transactions. The latest collection to come to market, that of Dr. John McCloskey, included only one, a 15% off center 1821 which sold for \$4560. Other auction comparisons are difficult to locate as many errors are still privately traded.

The Horning collection offers one a unique opportunity to obtain a collection decades in the making saving the buyer both time and, likely, money in the long run. Who knows what prices for these unique specimens may do in the future? Charlie would like to see the collection go to an appreciative numismatist who will continue to add specimens to the set and knowledge to the collecting community.

Bradley S. Karoleff, NLG

CAPPED BUST DIME ERRORS

Creating a meaningful bust dime error collection was certainly the most daunting of journeys. In the more than three decades that I have collected bust dimes, I have only found 13 unique examples. Unfortunately, there was a 14th that I passed on, to my now great chagrin; God rest you, Henry Hilgard.

Purchasing an R-6 bust dime marriage was a known task within a defined price range - actually a reasonable task in comparison. I began collecting bust dimes by die marriage in earnest in 1990, having burned out as a numismatic accumulator, with little knowledge and limited direction.

Due to the encouragement of my mentor Brad Karoleff, I began my efforts to build the best capped bust dime collection I could afford. Reading a great deal, gleaning gems from the greats of the hobby, especially Russ Logan, I began to better understand the minting process.

After the Bill Subjack sale in December 1992, I began to collect bust dimes in earnest. Outside of my primary collection, I think I became known as the garbage man. My collection soon included every cud I could find, love tokens, counterstamps and the rarest quarry of all - Mint errors.

These Mint mistakes were the red headed step child of collecting. Generally in ratty condition, too rare to catalogue, rarely mentioned in texts or publications, they became privately traded. "What are you willing to pay? You'll never find another..."

In truth, every mint error is truly unique. Most, more than likely, went into the reject pile - never to see the light of day, much less any circulation.

For early Federal coinage, it was not until the Russ Logan sale in November 2002, that bust errors were fully described, appreciated and auctioned. The prices realized from this auction created the first de facto price guide for early federal Mint errors.

These gems became the ultimate esoterica of the bust dime world. Essentially, all of the examples in my collection are at least an R-7, a few being unique. To this day, no full accounting of the extant population has been or ever will be published.

Garnered from the trash heaps and the luminaries, these masterpieces of the Mint's malfunction will, hopefully, find an appreciative home.

Charles D. Horning, DDS



1814 JR1 11% off center strike very fine details slight pitting light scratch obverse and heavier scratch on the reverse. This coin sports a fine pedigree. Russ Logan obtained it from the Subjack sale in July of 1992 for \$1075. It next appeared in the Logan collection lot 2015 in November 2002 where Charlie purchased it for \$2300. Included with the coin is Russ' original flip insert, the insert from the B&M sale in 2002 and Charlie's annotated envelope. All major off center bust dimes are rare and this one has the added cache of having been in the collections of two of the authors of Early United States Dimes.



1820 JR7 Double struck obverse **VF30**. One sided double struck coins are a result of two planchets being fed into the minting chamber at a time. One receives an obverse strike and the other a reverse image. They are then fed back into the press to receive a "normal" strike resulting in a uniface double struck coin. This coin exhibits doubling in the dentils and stars, especially 8-13. Originally sold by JJ Teaparty to an unknown collector then to Charlie from Brian Greer in 2004.





1821 JR8 Double struck obverse
VF25 dark patina. Another of the one-sided double struck coins most noticeable around 12:00 on the obverse. The letters of LIBERTY are also doubled and the dentils are off 50% creating an interesting look.



1823/2 JR3 incomplete "clipped" planchet VG8 dark patina. Charlie had this marked as a 5% clip at 2-3:00 with a very light Blaksley effect directly opposite the clip to help in authentication. This is one of the largest "clips" I've seen in the Capped Bust dime series. All incomplete planchet errors are rare on bust coins as they basically served as bullion in the early history of the United States.





1828 flipover double struck in collar NGC VG10. Too bad this one did not survive in better condition! Part of the shield is visible on Liberty's portrait and the fields are compromised from the reverse design. A decidedly flat area at stars 3-4 is the most noticeable feature. The outline of the Eagle's wing is clearly visible over the end of the bust and various letters of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA are visible in the fields at the periphery. The reverse shows much less evidence of the previous strike but the eagle is very flatly struck as a result. Doubling in the dentils is evident as well as some deformities in the field from the previously struck stars. Charlie purchased the coin from Henry Hilgard in 2012 and his letter of sale for \$1300 is included with the coin.





1832 JR2 incomplete "clipped"

planchet XF45 with original surfaces.

Another "clipped" planchet, this one slightly smaller than the last, appearing at 12:00. Additionally, it also has an edge cud at 6:30 in the reeding. This another interesting coin with a great provenance. It appeared on the cover of Errorscope magazine in June of 1985. It was owned by "Lonesome John" and went to Bill Subjack (a dime book author) then to Russ Logan as lot 2116 in his sale to Charlie. Here is another chance to add your name to an impressive pedigree. Russ paid almost \$400 for the piece in 1992 and Charlie purchased it from the B&M auction for \$575. Flip inserts from Subjack, Logan and the B&M Logan sale are included.



1832 JR4 slightly broadstruck

VF20. Charlie had listed this as an off-center strike but I believe it to be broadstruck. It appears the planchet was not centered in the collar as the coin is slightly egg shaped with an additional "rim" from 1–5:00. The error is clearly visible without magnification. Charlie obtained this coin at the CSNS convention in 2015 for \$200.





**1833 JR9 Uncentered broadstrike
PCGS F12** with original surfaces.

Charlie obtained this coin from the Heritage ANA sale, lot 8344, in 2004. It was described as "An area of unstruck surface is widest near 12:00 on the obverse. A deeply toned lavender-brown piece with a hint of verdigris, a somewhat wavy surface, and a few notable marks on the reverse. The portrait has a couple of faint pinscratches. Obviously, a rare type to encounter broadstruck. From the Velma & Bowie Lynch Collection." Charlie was all in at \$527 for this coin. A copy of the catalog page from the Heritage auction is included.



**1833 JR9 Partial collar strike
NGC MS61**, white and lustrous.

Unfortunately, the mint error is partially concealed under the edge of the NGC slab. Charlie obtained this coin in July of 2006 for \$1700. This is a rare opportunity to add an uncirculated mint error to your collection.





1835 JR5 Double struck in collar formerly in an old ANACS F detail net VG8 holder. The net grading is from an old scratch. The doubling is most noticeable on the date and stars 1-4 on the obverse. The reverse exhibits the strongest doubling at ERICA. The coin is attractively darkly toned with blue and gold highlights. Charlie purchased it at the Central States show in 2003 for \$315. The original sticker from the ANACS slab and Charlie's flip insert are included.



1835 JR5 double struck VF25 exhibiting charcoal surfaces. I found the coin for Charlie in 2016 and described it as such; "Double struck. First strike in collar with blank planchet lying partially across obverse creating the depression across the obverse. The reverse received AT LEAST a partial strike as evidenced by the lettering under the other letters in EPU on scroll and the doubling on the left wing and head of eagle. This likely jammed the press. After clearing the coining chamber, the partially struck coin was put back in the collar and struck normally. The reverse is clearly the star of this coin with a strongly doubled left wing, eagle's head and UN of Unum. This is one of my favorite coins in the collection. Charlie paid me the bargain price of \$350 for it in 2016.





1835 JR1 Partial brockage strike AU50

with original dusty surfaces. In 2002 our friend, Steve Crain, contacted me about this coin. His friend, and collecting partner, Stan Kubaki had discovered this coin at a show. Stan was mainly, like Steve, interested in the half dimes and wanted to sell the error dime. The brockage evidence is visible on the raised portion of the rim both obverse (6:00) and reverse (12:00). There are also three dentil tracks on Miss Liberty's cheek under her eye. There is a minor indentation over the date which is not related to the error. Included with the coin is Stan's flip insert, Charlie's envelope and the original letter offering the coin from Steve Crain to me.



1837 JR2 Misaligned die strike VG8.

This is another ex: Russ Logan coin. Russ had obtained it via eBay in 2001 paying \$175. It was housed in a SEGS holder which was soon broken open by Russ. Charlie obtained it from the B&M Logan sale in 2002 as lot 2170 for the ridiculous price of \$75. I guess everyone fell asleep at the end of the dime section except me! Included is the original SEGS tag, Russ' flip insert and the B&M lot card.



